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to a surface of a photoreceptor to which a uniform potential is being given by a corona discharger, the method comprising:

a first potential detecting step of (i) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of a plurality of laser intensities obtained by dividing a predetermined laser intensity value into a plurality of [at] first intervals, and (ii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities, wherein each of said potentials corresponds to one of said plurality of laser intensities[];

a second potential detecting step of (i) dividing the predetermined laser intensity value into a plurality of [at] second intervals so as to set a plurality of laser intensities, wherein said second plurality of intervals are smaller than said first plurality of intervals, and said plurality of laser intensities are in a range including a laser intensity corresponding to a potential selected from the potentials detected at the first potential detecting step, and wherein the selected potential is closest, out of the potentials detected at the first potential detecting step, to a predetermined set potential, (ii) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities thus set, and (iii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities; and

a step of (i) repeating the second potential detecting step until there is obtained a potential equal to or substantially equal to the predetermined set potential, and (ii)

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setting, as the maximum intensity, the laser intensity corresponding to the potential thus obtained[.],

wherein the plurality of laser intensities in the first potential detecting step are set within a range that is narrower than a full range from zero to the predetermined laser intensity value, and wherein an optimal maximum intensity lies within said full range.

Cont'd (B)

2. (Twice Amended) A laser intensity adjusting method of adjusting a maximum intensity of a laser exposure mechanism for irradiating laser light to a surface of a photoreceptor to which a uniform potential is being given by a corona discharger, the method comprising:

a first potential detecting step of (i) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of a plurality of laser intensities set at first intervals, and (ii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities;

a second potential detecting step of (i) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of a plurality of laser intensities which are set, at second intervals smaller than the first intervals and are in a range including a laser intensity with which there has been detected, at the first potential detecting step, a potential which is closest, out of the potentials detected at the first potential detecting step, to a predetermined set potential, and (ii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser

lights of the plurality of laser intensities; and

a step of setting, as the maximum intensity of the laser exposure mechanism, a laser intensity with which there has been detected, at the first or second potential detecting step, potential equal to or substantially equal to the predetermined set potential[.].

wherein the plurality of laser intensities in the first potential detecting step are set within a range that is narrower than a full range from zero to a predetermined laser intensity value, and wherein an optimal maximum intensity lies within said full range.

4. (Twice Amended) A laser intensity adjusting method according to
Claim 2, wherein

the laser intensities set at first and second potential detecting steps have values selected from a plurality of laser intensities obtained by dividing [a] the predetermined laser intensity value by a predetermined number.

5. (Twice Amended) A laser intensity adjusting method according to Claim 4, wherein

the predetermined laser intensity value is set to a value which is greater than a suitable maximum intensity.